AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 3 and ending on page 18, line 17, with the following replacement paragraph:

The second 4×4 scheduler 520 refers to allocated ~~input~~ <u>output</u> port information S545 to allocated ~~input~~ <u>output</u> port information S548 and allocated input port information S533 to allocated input port information S536 input from the first 4×4 scheduler 510 and executes connection allocation to non-allocated input port and output port. The second 4×4 scheduler 520 causes a connection allocation result to reflect in allocated output port information S545 to allocated output port information S548 input from an outside and allocated input port information S533 to allocated input port information S536 input from the first 4×4 scheduler 510, generates new allocated output port information S549 to new allocated output port information S552 so as to be output and outputs connection-allocated input port information to the third 4×4 scheduler 530 as allocated input port information S537 to allocated input port information S540.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 18 and ending on page 19, line 3, with the following replacement paragraph:

The third 4×4 scheduler 530 refers to allocated ~~input~~ output port information S549 to allocated ~~input~~ output port information S552 and allocated input port information S537 to allocated input port information S540 input from the second 4×4 scheduler 520 and executes connection allocation to non-allocated input port and output port. The third 4×4 scheduler 530 causes a connection allocation result to reflect in allocated output port information S549 to allocated output port information S552 input from an outside and allocated input port information S537 to allocated input port information S540 input from the second 4×4 scheduler 520, generates new allocated output port information S553 to new allocated output port information S556 so as to be output and outputs connection-allocated input port information to the fourth 4×4 scheduler 540 as allocated input port information S541 to allocated input port information S544.